HARVEST BOUNTY
RUSTIC STUFFED ACORN SQUASH
{page 15}



THE END OF AN ICON
STEVE JOBS DEAD AT 56
{page 6}



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For the first time in 15 seasons Canada has seven NHL teams again ◗ NHL preview {pages 17-21}

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Opposition left in tatters after election

Manitoba's political landscape was a study in contrasts yesterday after an election that gave the NDP a fourth-straight majority but left the opposition in disarray.

Premier Greg Selinger found himself with one of the biggest caucuses in the province's history. It includes every cabinet minister that ran for re-election. Selinger said voters sent a strong signal.

"Manitobans have told us directly that the priorities we have selected are the ones they want us to follow through on," he said.

Selinger emerged from the election with 37 of the legislature's 57 seats — the biggest haul in provincial elections since 1932.

On the other side of the legislature, however, the Opposition Progressive Conservatives were left to do some serious soul-searching. Tory Leader Hugh McFadyen stunned supporters Tuesday night by announcing he would resign after failing to add to the 19 seats the party took in the 2007 election.

The party must now plan a leadership convention and consider candidates who have a chance of defeating the New Democrats in 2015.

The Liberals may also be searching for a new leader soon and are facing a financial crunch as well.

Jon Gerrard hung on to his party's lone seat Tuesday. But the Liberal share of the popular vote dropped into single digits. He said he would consult party members and take some time to decide whether to resign as leader.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

JAMES TURNER/METRO



▶ Winnipeg firefighters hack through charred construction material that went up in flames at École Laura Secord School yesterday afternoon. As many as 16 fire trucks were called to the scene. No one was seriously hurt, officials say.

Fire engulfs parts of elementary school

Three students taken to hospital as a precaution Officials probe cause Firefighter treated for smoke inhalation at the Wolseley Avenue facility



JAMES TURNER
@METRONEWS.CA

Students and staff at École Laura Secord School get a pass from classes today as fire officials probe how construction materials placed outside caught fire yesterday, causing major smoke damage.

Students at the nursery to Grade 6 school at 960 Wolseley Ave. were evacuated from the grounds and moved to a nearby community centre for safety shortly after 1 p.m.

While the fire appeared to engulf the entire southeast side of the school, the main damage to its interior was caused by smoke, said Bill Clark, deputy chief of operations for the Winnipeg Fire Paramedic Service.

"(The flames) got in the window frames a bit, but we were able to stop it," Clark said at the scene yesterday.

He added the fire was not deemed to be suspicious, but the cause was not immediately known.

Work is underway to clean up and detoxify the school so classes can resume.

Luckily, the fire broke out just as many children were still outside on recess over the noon hour.

"I have to say thank God it happened before school got in," said Lisa Hagen-Smith, who hugged her clearly frightened son, Justice, 5, not far from where fire crews worked to put out hot spots.

The pair was walking back to Laura Secord when they saw the flames.

Hagen-Smith credited school staff and firefighters for their rapid response to the blaze.

A damage estimate was not immediately available.



See video of the fire at metronews.ca/winnipeg

Chamber passes the gavel

Winnipeg lawyer Brian Bowman got his first firm grip on the ceremonial gavel used by the Winnipeg Chamber of Commerce.

Bowman was sworn in as the chamber's new board chairperson yesterday morning.

The board also revealed its three-year strategy, which borrows heavily on the chamber's recent Manitoba Bold campaign, which encourages all levels of government, businesses and private citizens to think big when it comes to Manitoba's future.

ELISHA DACEY

JAMES TURNER/METRO



▶ Brian Bowman receives the ceremonial gavel from outgoing chair Judy Murphy.

News in brief

Heat record broken

Feel like beach weather yesterday to you? That's because it was.

Winnipeg broke a temperature record with a high of 30.8 C recorded at Richardson International Airport. That breaks a record of 28.3 C, recorded in 1943.

The warm weather is expected to last the week. ELISHA DACEY

Cops lose Taser

Winnipeg police say they lost a Taser sometime during the evening on Tuesday when it became dislodged from the belt of an on-duty officer in Division 13 (Northwest Winnipeg.)

Should someone find the Taser, they are asked to contact police immediately. ELISHA DACEY

1 news

Wall Street protest swells as union members, college students join the clamour. Scan code for story.

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3 The codes will direct your mobile browser to **m.metronews.ca**

On the web at metronews.ca

TOBY TALBOT/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Opposition MPs urge the Conservative government to openly discuss its new $1-billion perimeter security deal with the United States. More at metronews.ca/video

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Jets. Stream



▶ Members of the Winnipeg Jets cheer after beating team managers and coaches in a rowing heat yesterday at the Winnipeg Rowing Club on Lyndale Drive. The team ventured away from the hurly-burly of the ice and onto the Red River as a team-building exercise.

JAMES TURNER/METRO

That blue line makes a splash

Axworthy's anger

He calls on airline to look at recent numbers that show downtown safe ◐ Chiefs say memo is racist

The president of the University of Winnipeg is adding his voice to criticism of Air Canada's decision to stop using downtown hotels for crew layovers.

Lloyd Axworthy, a former federal Liberal cabinet minister, has written a letter to the airline demanding an apology.

He says the airline has damaged Winnipeg's reputation and perpetuates negative stereotypes about aboriginal people.

"As one of Canada's best-known companies, Air Canada should lead by example."
LLOYD AXWORTHY

"As a university located on Treaty One land in the heart of the Métis Nation where a full 12 per cent of our students self-identify as indigenous, and as a learning institution, it is our responsibility to speak out and to educate," says Axworthy in the letter.

Air Canada has cited security concerns downtown, where about 1,000 displaced people from rural Manitoba are staying.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

No ice time for them: Fake Jets jerseys seized

The Mounties have seized more counterfeit Winnipeg Jets gear.

This time the knockoffs were purported to be the official Jets jersey.

Police said they intercepted 190 Jets jerseys destined for locations around Winnipeg.

The jerseys were made in China and had an estimated street value of $76,000.

"It was just a matter of time until we intercepted copies of the official Jets jersey," said Cpl. John Montgomery of the RCMPs federal enforcement unit in a release.

"This was very quick, as the Jets just released the official jersey a few weeks ago."

Police said the quality of the jerseys was poor and the colours wrong.

But they did include names of the players and numbers.

ELISHA DACEY/METRO WINNIPEG

RCMP HANDOUT



▶ The jerseys were of poor quality, police say.

The first batch

▶ Forty jerseys were seized a few weeks ago, before the official design came out.

Hockey. History



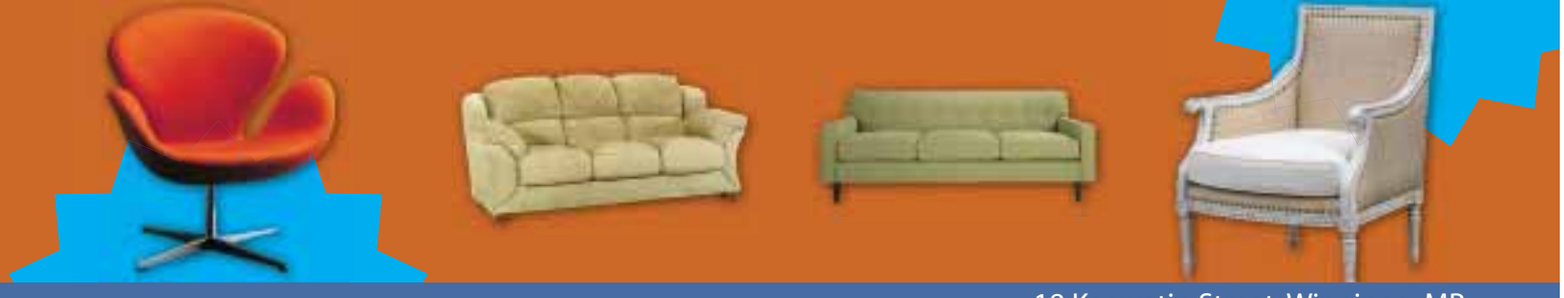
▶ Titled Power Play, the mural features notable players, including Bobby Hull and Rick Rypien.

JENNA CUMBERS/METRO WINNIPEG

Faces from the rink

The West End BIZ unveiled its latest mural, depicting Winnipeg's love of hockey, at the corner of Portage Avenue and Furby Street yesterday. It was painted by artists Mandy van Leeuwen and Michel St. Hilaire.

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Apple founder Steve Jobs dead at 56

Death of tech giant's former CEO comes day after unveiling of new iPhone

Steve Jobs, the Apple founder and former CEO who invented and masterfully marketed ever-sleeker gadgets that transformed everyday technology, from the personal computer to the iPod and iPhone, has died. He was 56.

Apple announced his death last night without giving a specific cause.

Jobs had battled cancer in 2004 and underwent a liver transplant in 2009 after taking a leave of absence for unspecified health problems. He took another leave of absence in January — his third since his health problems began — before resigning as CEO six weeks ago. Jobs became Apple's chairman and handed the CEO job over to his hand-picked successor, Tim Cook.

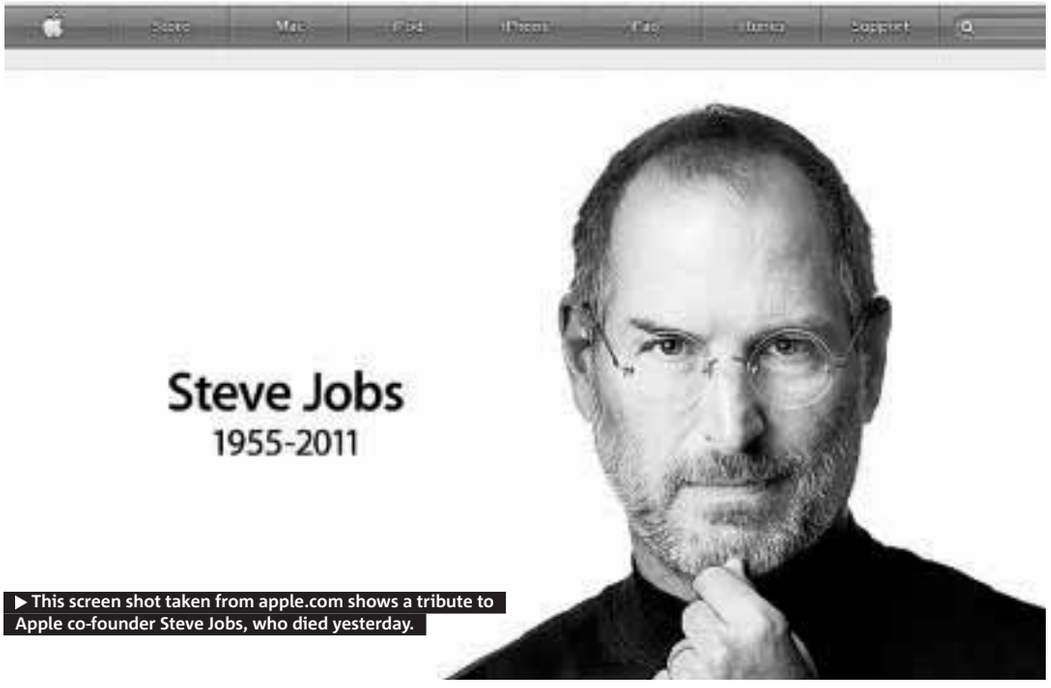
Jobs started Apple with a high school friend in a Silicon Valley garage in 1976, was forced out a decade later and returned in 1997 to rescue the company. During his second stint, it grew into the most valuable technology company in the world with a market value of $351 billion.

Cultivating Apple's countercultural sensibility and a minimalist design ethic, Jobs rolled out one sensational product after another, even in the face of the late-2000s recession and his own failing health.

He helped change computers from a geeky hobbyist's obsession to a necessity of modern life at work and home, transforming the cellphone and music industries in the process.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

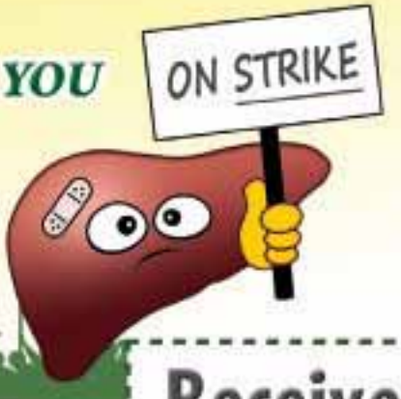
APPLE.COM/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



▶ This screen shot taken from apple.com shows a tribute to Apple co-founder Steve Jobs, who died yesterday.

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Smitten duchess weds commoner

Estimates of her wealth range from $600 million to $3.5 billion Groom only earned $1,500/month

A wealthy 85-year-old Spanish duchess considered the world's most title-laden noble married a civil servant 25 years her junior yesterday, shrugging off her children's qualms and celebrating by kicking off her shoes and dancing flamenco.

A crowd of several hundred clapped and roared its approval as the Duchess of Alba waved, smiled and danced on a red carpet after her wedding to Alfonso Diez at Palacio de las Duenas, her 15th-century residence in the cobblestoned old quarter of Seville.

Diez stood close by in a dark suit, smiling and holding an outstretched arm at the ready, as if to catch his bride if she stumbled. The duchess hiked up her dress as she performed a few whirling steps of Spain's quintessential art form in the city perhaps best known for it.

"I have been alone in this project, and got nothing but negative opinions until they realized what kind of man he is."
DUCHESS OF ALBA
ON HER FAMILY'S REACTION

With her frizzy white hair, squeaky voice and wildly colourful clothes, the duchess is among Spain's most famous people. Only a few dozen family members and close friends were invited to the ceremony.

The twice-widowed duchess wore a salmon, shin-length dress by Spanish designers Victorio & Lucchino.

Her full name — take a deep breath — is Maria del Rosario Cayetana Alfonsa Victoria Eugenia Francisca Fitz-James Stuart y de Silva. She goes by simply Cayetana, and is a distant relative of Queen Elizabeth and Winston Churchill.

She and Diez, a social security administration employee, are old acquaintances through her second husband, who was a former Jesuit priest, and Diez's brother, an antiques dealer. They bumped into each other about three years ago outside a movie theatre in Madrid and eventually started dating.

Her six children, all from her first marriage, reportedly balked when the idea of marriage emerged. In July of this year, the duchess assigned them and her grandchildren juicy chunks of her vast estate, like mansions and palaces, in an effort to appease them and clear her way to the altar.

Diez will be entering a new world, although he has reportedly signed a document renouncing any claim to the House of Alba wealth. Now he will live in splendor as a duke, reportedly with plans to take a leave of absence from his day job, although the noble title will pass on to the duchess's eldest son, Carlos, when she dies.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MIGUEL ANGEL MORENATTI/ THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



▶ The Spanish Duchess of Alba and her new husband, Alfonso Diez, walk out of the chapel after their wedding at Las Duenas Palace in Seville, yesterday.

Putin fakes treasure find

The widely publicized incident in which Russian Prime Minister Vladimir Putin pulled up ancient Greek jug fragments from the seabed on a diving expedition was staged, his chief spokesman said.

The August dive in the Kerch Strait was reported extensively in Russian and overseas media. Putin is noted for his habit of appearing in adventurous settings, including fishing while stripped to the waist and riding with leather-clad motorcyclists.

His spokesman said the jugs had been found earlier by archaeologists and placed there for Putin.

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▶ Russian Prime Minister Vladimir Putin


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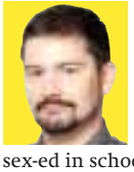
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LET'S TALK ABOUT BIRDS AND BEES

HE SAYS ...

JOHN MAZEROLLE
METRO



Listen up, parents. It's time you had a frank discussion with your children about — well, you know, doin' it.

My province is in election mode and sex education became a topic during the campaign, thus proving those "SEX! Now that I've got your attention…" campaign signs my fellow students used in junior high elections were an accurate reflection of our political system.

Regardless of your thoughts about sex-ed in school, we can all agree that sexual education begins at home. (My parents never talked to me about it, but they got cable for the TV in my room, which had the same basic effect.)

It's a problem every generation faces.

When kids ask about sex, parents must first ask questions of themselves: How do I change the subject? How tightly do I plug my ears? Are they ready for the "when two people love each other" lie? Or do I stick with the stork? And so on.

"...so you need to tell your children about how birds sometimes get abortions and bees sometimes marry bees of the same gender..."

But your kid is going to have sex sooner or later (take a moment here to get your heart started again), so you need to tell your children about how birds sometimes get abortions and bees sometimes marry bees of the same gender and all those other fun facts your kids are just clamouring to know.

To help, here are a few tips:

• Remember that you and your children probably have different ideas about what makes for a proper sexual education. They may be expecting Cosmo-style lessons like "57 positions that drive him wild" and "Proper hickey removal," but it's important you stay the course and stick with such adult classics as "Triplets: More common than you think" and "Herpes: Your life-long friend."

• Speak in terms they can understand. For example: "Son, if you sleep around when you're drinking, you're going to end up with regrets. Other people will hear about it, and suddenly everyone's yearbook write-up will mention how you sleep with "that" girl. Now, do you want that?"

• Never be afraid to rap. Kids love rap. A clever rhyme scheme based on a simple message like "Hold on to your hormones" will let your children know that you can riff on bodily functions just like Eminem.

• Explain how sex leads to marriage in much the same way that, in the Star Wars movies, anger leads to the Dark Side.

Now you're prepared. With these tips, you'll be able to share with your offspring in elaborate and sometimes graphic discussions.

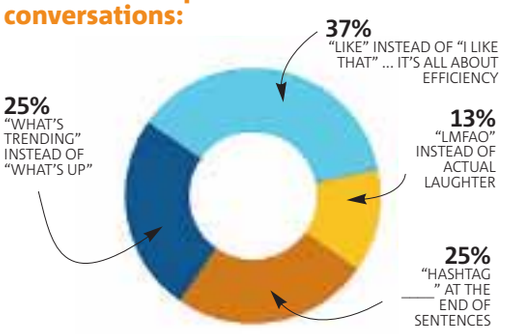
Or, barring that, just get them cable. It'll do the rest.

Read more of John Mazerolle's columns at metronews.ca/hesays

Panel

Register at metropolitanpanel.ca and take the quick poll

What online language would you most like to see adopted in real conversations:


37%
"LIKE" INSTEAD OF "I LIKE THAT" ... IT'S ALL ABOUT EFFICIENCY
13%
"LMFAO" INSTEAD OF ACTUAL LAUGHTER
25%
"HASHTAG" AT THE END OF SENTENCES
25%
"WHAT'S TRENDING" INSTEAD OF "WHAT'S UP"

Local tweets

▶**@Marieann Hart:** Inspiration always comes when it's unexpected!

▶**@shortsinabag:** "Be warned: you MAY be required to explain to a customer the differences between the 4 Adult Entertainment channels." Fun. ;)

▶**@JessStreetz:** They say it's beautiful outside but I don't care, I just wanna stay in bed, watch a movie and eat junk food! #NotFeelinIt

▶**@KING87YENS:** There's a guy on the bus that looks just like crocodile dundee, hat and everything....FML he's australian to boot! Now I really want Wendys!

▶**@maanvital:** my brother passed his road test! very happy for him.. and me..now can he drive himself to work.. lol.. :))

▶**@iamsheenap:** How did I get another cold before getting over the first one?

▶**@TheKarinLee:** Am i the only one who is ready for a cool breeze, a cozy scarfand close toed shoes? #fallwhereareyou

▶**@Prairie_Mouse:** So nice out! I wore a skirt to work. Bad idea in the WestEnd apparently. Thanks for the compliment drug addicts, but no thanks!

Worth mentioning

During high season in the Kenyan luxury resort area of Lamu, foreign tourists snorkel by day and sleep in rustic dwellings with woven coconut leaves for doors. Now they're leaving town early and cancelling reservations after gunmen kidnapped two Europeans and killed another in only a month.

Already, droves of workers who depend on tourism in this gorgeous but poor corner of East Africa are losing jobs.

Hours after a French woman was abducted last weekend, eight guests checked out of Stefano Moccia's nearby hotel and hurriedly boarded a plane. Usually busy taxi boats now lay idle along the coasts.

"This season is over. That is for sure," said Stefano Moccia, who has fired nearly half his 100 staff in just two days.

Nervous hotel owners like Moccia are urging Kenya's government to step up security in this area long popular with tourists and rich Kenyans. High tourist season traditionally begins here in November, but the $1,800 US-a-night rooms could sit empty and the beaches bare.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Changing. Gears



▶ A bicyclist enjoys the unseasonably warm weather — nearly 27 C — as he rides past vivid fall colours near Lake Nokomis in Minneapolis yesterday.

JIM MONE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Photo of the day

Winnipeg's forecast today is sunny with a high of 26 C. Tonight will be mainly clear, with a low of 18 C.

WEIRD NEWS

Higher purpose for grow-op equipment

Equipment seized from a U.S. marijuana operation is going to be used to grow a different kind of herb — and vegetables, too.

Delaware County District Attorney G. Michael Green tells The Philadelphia Inquirer the equipment taken in May from a sophisticated marijuana growing operation will go to Cheyney University and a Philadelphia community development corporation's Urban Food Lab.

Authorities say the raid at a former Chester drugstore yielded industrial generators, grow lights and hydroponic plant containers.

The Inquirer report says Partnership CDC's Urban Food Lab grows greens, lettuce, peppers and broccoli. An on-campus business at Cheyney already uses hydroponic techniques to grow basil that's sold to local supermarkets.

Cheyney professor Steven Hughes puts the value of the donated equipment at tens of thousands of dollars.

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Netflix dodges regulation calls

No proof that online service has led to drop in TV subscriptions

Online services like Netflix won't be subject to Canadian regulations because there's no clear evidence that consumers are cutting the cord on their cable or satellite TV subscriptions, the CRTC said yesterday.

Online and mobile programming is complementary to the television content distributed by cable, satellite and broadcast systems, the CRTC said.

"There is no clear evidence that Canadians are reducing or cancelling their television subscriptions," said a news release.

"Some online programming services have established viable business models and are competing in the marketplace for programming rights and viewers," the CRTC said.

1M

U.S.-based Netflix has attracted more than one million Canadian subscribers since beginning its online service in this country about a year ago.

The CRTC did not mention Netflix by name, but a 40-member group from the telecommunications, broadcasting, cable and satellite and production sectors had asked the regulator to hold consultations on services like Netflix.

The CRTC acknowledged it hasn't be able to accurately gauge consumer behaviour.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Greek. Action



▶ Riot police detain a man in Athens yesterday. At least 16,000 protested in the Greek capital, and about 10,000 gathered in the city of Thessaloniki.

PETROS GIANNAKOURIS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Greece brought to halt

Civil servants joined protests by walking off the job during a 24-hour strike yesterday, crippling the public sector over ever-deeper austerity measures.

Indian villagers getting 'cheap' tablet computers

India introduced a cheap tablet computer yesterday, saying it would deliver modern technology to the countryside to help lift villagers out of poverty.

The computer, called Aakash, or "sky" in Hindi, is the latest in a series of "world's cheapest" innovations in India that include a $2,040 compact Nano car, $15 water purifier and $2,000 open-heart surgery.

Developer Datawind is selling the tablets to the government for about $45 each, and subsidies will reduce that to $35 for students and teachers.

GURINDER OSAN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



▶ A student poses with her new tablet yesterday.

Datawind says it can make about 100,000 units a month at the moment, not nearly enough to meet India's hope of getting its 220 million children online.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Market moment

PRICES AS OF 5 P.M. YESTERDAY

TSX	Dollar	Oil	Natural gas	Gold
+ 279.30 (11,457.22)	+ 1.34¢ (96.14¢ US)	- $4.01 US ($79.68 US)	$3.57 (- 6.8¢)	$1,641.60 (+ $25.60)

Tim Hortons chain taking famous brew to Arab Gulf states

Canadian coffee and doughnut chain Tim Hortons is looking to brew up new business across Arab Gulf states.

The chain's local franchise partner, Apparel Group, confirmed yesterday that it plans to open 120 shops under the Tim Hortons name in the next five years.

Under an agreement disclosed earlier this year, Apparel Group is to open stores in the United Arab Emirates, Qatar, Bahrain, Kuwait and Oman.

Already, homesick, doughnut-loving Canadians have flocked to a Tim Hortons store that opened in Dubai last month, the company's first location in the Persian Gulf region.

Not be outdone, Tim Hortons' competitors, among them Dunkin' Donuts, Krispy Kreme Doughnuts and Starbucks have already set up shop in the region.

Based in Oakville, Ont., Tim Hortons is Canada's biggest restaurant chain and the fourth-biggest in North America with more than 3,700 restaurants on the continent.

Though it has already opened extensive operations in the United States, self-serve kiosks in the U.K. and a temporary location at Kandahar Airfield for troops in Afghanistan, the Dubai store is its first full-serve restaurant outside of North America.

"We have got some smaller self-serve operations in Ireland but this is what I believe is our first true export of the brand," CEO Paul House said at the time.

Despite the move into the Gulf states, House said the chain is in no rush to enter another country and isn't committed to a timetable for international expansion.

"We're promising very little at this point," House said.

Instead, the chain plans to keep international efforts focused on the U.S. market, where it says it is making inroads through non-traditional stores such as kiosks in places like gas stations and universities.

AP/WITH FILES FROM CP

Donut with that?

Tim Hortons execs say they're in no rush to expand internationally.

▶ For now, Tim Hortons is hoping to expand ternational efforts across the U.S. market by operating smaller kiosks selling coffee and donut stations.

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2 scene

TREVOR MARCZYLO/METRO NEWS



▶ Winnipeg duo Imaginary Cities has been to the other side of the world and back and are finding success wherever they go.

No stranger to success

Imaginary Cities working on a follow up to hit first record **Recently returned from tour**

BACKSTAGE PASS

JARED STORY
METRO WINNIPEG



Ride this out. Winnipeg duo Imaginary Cities is finding many a market to move Temporary Resident — its debut full-length album — originally released in February on Canadian label Hidden Pony Records.

In March, Resident received a European release through German imprint Grand Hotel van Cleef and in June, the album became available in Australia via Shock Records. In fact, Marti Sarbit and Rusty Matyas recently returned from a tour Down Under with Sparkadia.

"I was talking to the lead singer, Alex (Burnett) and he says they chose us," says Sarbit, 26, of the Sydney-based band.

"Sparkadia is right on that cusp of being big," says Matyas, 31. "In the bigger cities in Australia, they do bigger rooms, like if Winnipeg was New York then they would play The Burton Cummings Theatre. There were about 1,200 people at the larger shows."

And they keep on pushing. On Friday, Imaginary Cities start a Euro-trip, with 15 shows scheduled in Germany alone.

Then in November, a North American tour, with headlining concerts in Canada and supporting shows in the States, opening for alt-rock gods the Pixies.

While Matyas is no stranger to musical success — he's a touring member of The Weakerthans and his former band The Waking Eyes was signed to Warner Records — Sarbit's pre-Imaginary Cities gig was fronting a Motown cover band. Safe to say, a Pixies supporting slot wasn't on her radar.

"It's very safe to say that," says Sarbit. "I wouldn't have even known I would be touring at all two years ago. This has far exceeded my expectations."

"We started recording because it was fun and it just turned into this," adds Matyas.

An awesome accident? According to its members, yes, so what happens with album number two? How will Imaginary Cities follow-up a record that's taken them around the world and was long-listed for the 2011 Polaris Music Prize?

"We're recording the next record right now and we're doing it the exact same way we did the first one," says Matyas. "We're just having fun again, because that seemed to work the first time."

Walt Disney



Finding Nemo and The Little Mermaid are among multiple Walt Disney tales that are following The Lion King into 3-D mode on the big-screen. Over the next two years Disney is releasing multiple titles in 3-D.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

FILE PHOTO/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



▶ The Simpsons could be coming to an end.

Don't have a cow

Simpsons series is on the ropes over salary disputes

In its 23rd year on TV, The Simpsons could be on the endangered species list.

The show's producer said Tuesday the show can't continue under its current financial model, following a report that big pay cuts are being sought for the actors who provide voices for Homer, Marge and Bart Simpson and other characters.

"We believe this brilliant series can and should continue, but we cannot produce future seasons under its current financial model," said Chris Alexander, spokesman for 20th Century Fox Television. He said producers hope a deal can be reached.

The animated series is a fixture on Fox's Sunday night schedule, and critics consider it one of the best shows in the medium. But like many programs that have been on the air for a long time, the cost of making it has become prohibitive. The Fox network reportedly loses money each year on new episodes.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

'French Immersion' director Kevin Tierney says film isn't political

Depp accepts 'stupid money' for his kids

Johnny Depp says at this point he works for 'stupid money' for his family, not himself

PHOTOS: GETTY IMAGES



▶ Johnny Depp says photo shoots make him feel like he's 'being raped.'

Johnny Depp is not a fan of getting his picture taken. In fact, when it comes to photo shoots, "You just feel like you're being raped somehow. Raped. The whole thing," the actor tells Vanity Fair.

"It feels like a kind of weird — just weird, man. Whenever you have a photo shoot or something like that, it's like — you just feel dumb. It's just so stupid."

But Depp, who's made a fortune from the Pirates of the Caribbean movies, isn't so much afraid of stupid things, including stupid salaries. "If they're going to pay me the stupid money right now, I'm going to take it," he says of some of his film roles. "I have to. I mean, it's not for me. Do you know what I mean? At this point, it's for my kids. It's ridiculous, yeah, yeah. But ultimately is it for me? No. No. It's for the kids."

METRO

Seyfried swears off famous boys

While she remembers her relationship with Dominic Cooper fondly, Amanda Seyfried says dating Ryan Phillippe has put her off dating other celebrities.

"Dominic and I were together for such a long time, so the coverage was always positive, but when you've just started seeing someone and that person is really famous, it's more of a story," the actress tells Glamour magazine.



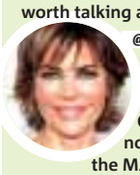
METRO

Celebrity tweets



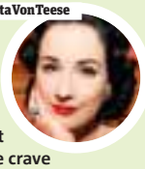
@DaveSFoley

"Socrates said 'the unexamined life is not worth living.' But the examined life is seldom worth talking about."



@lisarinna

"Here's my Question — now I'm onto the MJ trial — did MJ's kids know that he had to be put to sleep every night by a doctor?"



@DitaVonTeese

"The real reason I'm not a stoner is because it makes me crave Manwiches, corn dogs, cheeze whiz & carnival food."



@SethMacFarlane

"Thing I've never said #476: 'Hey, you mind if I put on some Smash Mouth?'"

Cox, Arquette in 'friend zone'

While David Arquette and Courteney Cox have remained close throughout their year-long separation, a rekindling of their marriage doesn't seem likely, Arquette admits to Access Hollywood.

"We're pretty much in the friend zone," he says.

METRO

Things get hot and steamy on Ashton's anniversary

New details reveal that while Ashton Kutcher didn't spend his recent wedding anniversary with wife Demi Moore, he reportedly was far from alone.

According to Us Weekly, the Two and Half Men star was partying in his San Diego hotel suite with not one but two young female companions.

"Within five minutes, they were all naked in the hot tub, making out," a source tells the magazine.



METRO

Blake and Leo call it quits after summer fling

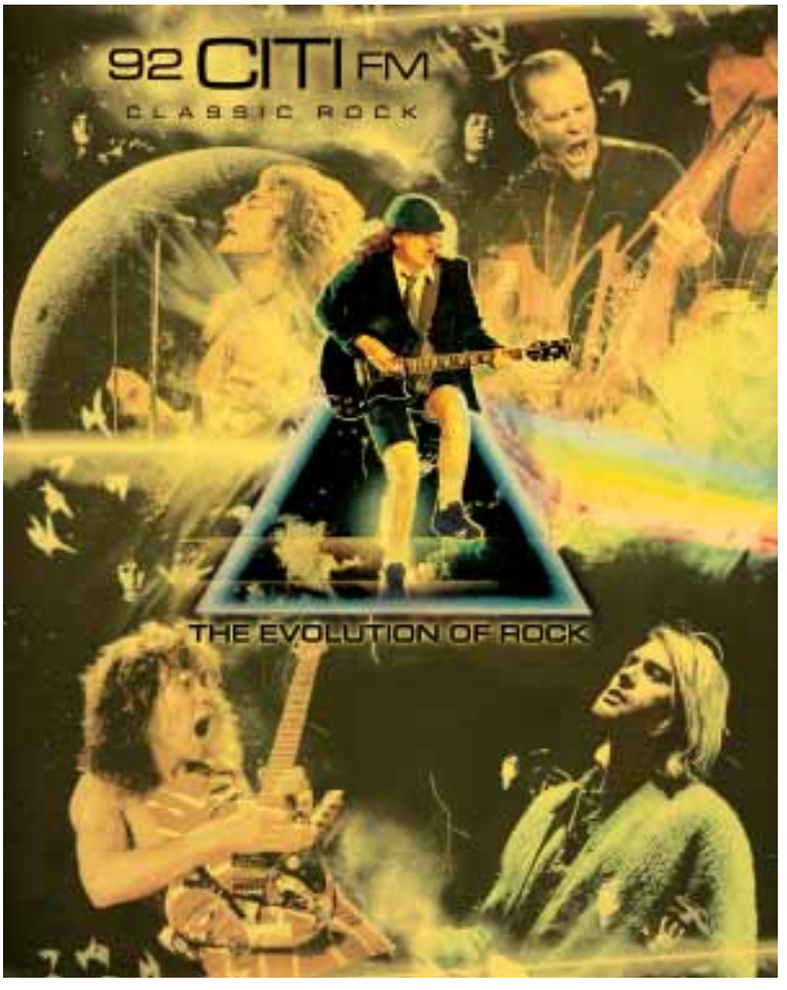
While they never officially acknowledged that they were dating, Leonardo DiCaprio and Blake Lively have split up, both of their reps confirm, according to Hollyscoop. The pair first turned heads at the Cannes Film Festival earlier this year and reportedly dated throughout the summer.

While DiCaprio is still in Australia filming the Great Gatsby, Lively was spotted over the weekend in Boston sharing an intimate dinner with Green Lantern co-star Ryan Reynolds.

METRO



▶ Leonardo DiCaprio



3 life

In brief

BEST IN BOOTS

The iconic Canadian company Cougar Boots has revisioned one of its most popular models. The Cougar Pillow Boot, which was a staple of women's winter wardrobes for a number of years, has returned. The new Pillow still has the red fleece tongue and puffed leather that made the original so popular. Visit cougar-boots.com.



METRO

Following umpteenth designer departure, Emanuel Ungaro changes strategy.

Springtime in Paris

At Paris Fashion Week, last spring's sexy, vampy looks were replaced with crisp A-line frocks, tailored trouser suits and romantic dresses

KENYA HUNT
LIFE@METRONEWS.CA
METRO WORLD NEWS IN LONDON

GETTY IMAGES



BEST IN SHOW: CHANEL

In what turned out to be the week's most gorgeous show, Karl Lagerfeld created an ivory, aquatic wonderland with models dressed in ethereal dresses, suits, separates and swimsuits that looked like shimmering saltwater pearls. Few designers today can produce such a large collection (a whopping 85 looks) with a singular vision that doesn't look repetitive and maintains a couture-level quality from beginning to end. The excitement in the room was palpable. In short, this is what Paris Fashion Week is meant to be.

GETTY IMAGES



HIGH HEMLINES: STELLA MCCARTNEY

For spring, McCartney continued the seductive streak she started for fall, only she replaced last season's sheer, body-con dresses with crisp, A-line frocks that revealed miles of leg. They were sporty with a flourish; each look came with contrasting coloured swirls that surfed their way along the hemline and up the torso. But everyday working women might find themselves gravitating toward her mannish wide-leg trousers and leisure shirts. They came in a variety of prints that resembled those found on men's ties.

GETTY IMAGES



TEMPERED GIRLY-NESS: CHLOÉ

Enter Clare Waight Keller, the latest Brit to move into the French house, who debuted her first collection for Chloé on Monday. Her clothes had the breezy femininity the house has become known for in the form of drop-waist dresses and soft, chiffon pleats. But she tempered the girly-ness with cotton T-shirts and button-down blouses that were slightly tomboyish. It was a sweet collection, but it felt more like a quiet arrival than a momentous debut. Here's hoping that changes come next show season.

GETTY IMAGES



ROMANTIC AND WEARABLE: GIVENCHY

After last season's vampy, sex kittens, Riccardo Tisci's quieter, romantic clothes for spring looked like a palette cleanser. Gone were the black cat graphics, latex and sheer skirts. Instead, he produced tailored jacket and short combos (a definite trend for spring) and trouser suits in the softest pink. They were wearable and practically sweet, a word you don't normally associate with Givenchy. Though a series of slinky mini-dresses with strategically placed sheer cut-outs that revealed naked breasts were classic Tisci.

Jeanne Space



In this hectic modern world, Twitter has become a cool and succinct way of communicating. Whether it's a fashion question, or you just want to comment on life's bigger picture, I'd love to hear from you.

@Jeanne_Beker: **Will NEVER get used to the idea of coming to a McQueen show without McQueen. I miss him so much. Sure the show will be great. But somehow...**

- **@Jeanne_Beker:** Lots of texture + flounce at McQueen
- **@Jeanne_Beker:** Dazzling gowns at McQueen
- **@kadejovacs:** Thank you @Jeanne_Beker for shining some light in the depths of my work day with your fashion twit pics
- **@Jeanne Beker:** xoxo!
- **@Jeanne Beker:** Selma Hayek says you can feel how Sarah Burton was able to channel McQueen for this stellar collection. They're inextricably connected.

TUNE INTO FASHION TELEVISION EVERY SUNDAY AT 5:30 P.M. (ET) ON CTV. JEANNE BEKER'S FINDING MYSELF IN FASHION (PENGUIN) IS AVAILABLE IN BOOKSTORES NATIONWIDE.

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Simple fun

A day picking apples allows you to enjoy the outdoors and family

KELLY PUTTER
FOR METRO

The beauty of apple picking has to be its simplicity.

While it's a good idea to dress for the weather, apple growers have seen it all, from diaper-clad youngsters hiked up on dad's back reaching for a crisp Spartan, to apple pie making mamas dressed in their high heels.

"There's a bit of magic in picking an apple from a tree because no one has touched it before," explains Tom Chudleigh, who has been selling apples for 44 years from his 100-acre farm in Halton Hills, Ont.

Though the apple picking season and the varieties vary from East Coast to West and from farm to farm, you can still find plenty of pick-your-own apple farms that aren't too far from home. Some operations combine fruit picking with other fun farm experiences such as hayrides, corn mazes and hot apple cider during the fall season.

Be sure to bring bags or baskets to carry home your haul. Expect to pay in the neighbourhood of $1.85 to $2.50 per kilogram. And bring cash since many DIY farms don't accept debit or credit cards.

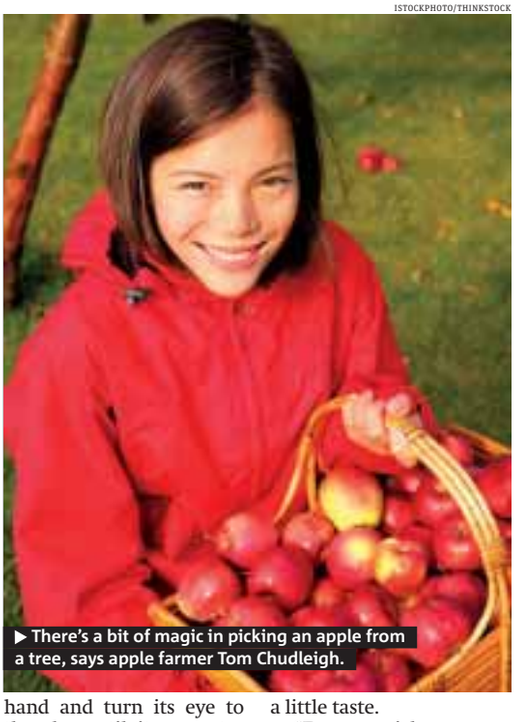
Also, remember to call ahead for availability and you-pick hours. Weekends are the busiest time so if you can get away through the week all the better. And don't forget to pack a picnic lunch.

When picking, Chudleigh recommends you take the apple in your hand and turn its eye to the sky until it separates from the tree.

As for how to know when apples are ripe for the picking? Nothing beats a little taste.

"From a pick-your-own farmer's perspective, the apple should be chin-dripping juicy right off the tree," says Chudleigh.

ISTOCKPHOTO/THINKSTOCK



▶ There's a bit of magic in picking an apple from a tree, says apple farmer Tom Chudleigh.

Enjoy fall events

Johnny Winter & Band with very special guest David Gogo
Oct. 21. At the Pyramid Cabaret. For more, see hightideconcerts.net/

Selena Gomez
Oct. 21. At the MTS Centre. 7 p.m. For more, see mtscentre.ca/

William Shatner
Oct. 25. At the Manitoba Centennial Concert Hall. 8 p.m. For more, see centennialconcerthall.com/

Winnipeg Green lifestyle & Organic Living Show
Oct. 22-23. The Green Lifestyle & Organic Living Show, the first of its kind in Winnipeg, is a celebration of all things green. It's about living a natural, healthy, eco-friendly life in Winnipeg. For more, see winnipeg greenshow.com/

Manito Ahbee Festival
Nov. 2-6. Celebrate the Manito Ahbee First Nations community with an international competition powwow, the Aboriginal Peoples Choice Music Awards and many other events. For more, see manitoahbee.com/

Winnipeg Aboriginal Film Festival
Nov. 17-26. Celebrating Indigenous storytelling and filmmaking, this annual festival showcases a stellar lineup of films, documentaries, short dramas and post-discussion experiences for youth and adults. For more, see aboriginalfilmfest.org/

The Last Five Years
Until Nov. 9. Musical at The Gas Station Theatre. For more, see actnatural.ca/ METRO


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Everything but the turkey

Add some sparkle, shine and a few new colours to this year's Thanksgiving dinner table

DESIGN CENTRE



KARL LOHNES
HOME@METRONEWS.CA

When I was as young as five years old my inner decorator had me volunteering to create the Thanksgiving centrepiece for the dining table.

I'd collect fallen branches, rusty-coloured leaves and pinecones to make an elegant arrangement in the middle of the table.

Looking back at old family photos I realized that my hodgepodge of outdoor elements looked more rustic than elegant.

Today's festive tables are a little more than just old leaves and branches.

But there are many affordable ways to have an impressive table while keeping a budget in mind.

Here's how I will be decorating the Thanksgiving table this weekend.

Choose a table colour scheme

I've decided to mix neutral colours like brown and grey in my dishes and add trendy colours like orange, reds and greens.

If you (or your parents) have vintage Denby pottery in oatmeal or stone colours then bring it out for an earthy, pottered look for this year's celebration.

I'll be using the pewter collection from Corelle — the unbreakable dishes have some great trend-setting colours and patterns that fit right in with my busy lifestyle and will be perfect for those clumsy friends of mine. Also, at less than $20 per place setting, I've stocked up with anticipation of upcoming holiday buffet parties.

POTTERY BARN



▶ A harvest feast.

POTTERY BARN



▶ Colourful faux leaves, $20, Pottery Barn.

Add some dazzle

As casual as the inexpensive dinner ware means adding some elegance to the table.

Layering some silver charger plates under the dishes will boost the image, and pulling out the oversized Riedel wine glasses will make everyone feel like a king and queen at the table.

Consider buying the right size and shape of glass for the wine that you most enjoy drinking. That way you can afford such a small luxury for entertaining.

I will also be breaking tradition and surprising my guests by serving a red wine with the turkey dinner.

Wine experts say a good Pinot Noir (try the Sterling Vintners Collection Pinot Noir for around $15) is a good choice as it is light and peppery and goes well with the elements of a turkey dinner.

A personal touch

After dinner I'll be serving a fabulous root beer float with vanilla ice cream and a shot of Captain Morgan Deluxe rum.

Sounds like a funny combination but it's a big fall favourite of mine when entertaining. Everyone loves it — especially with the scoop of vanilla ice cream!

Spice up the table

I like to mix fresh flowers, mini pumpkins and leaves with artificial elements. A tiny pumpkin used as a vase with two or three silk flowers makes for fun individual arrangements at each place setting.

The mini pumpkins are also great as a votive candle holder and when boiled in simple syrup, they make tasty and edible bowls for serving dessert.

Go glam

I like the layer the table with luxurious fabrics to set the tone of an eclectic meal. A lush throw, washable silk quilt or faux fur often help to add the glam factor to the table.

In Europe, the trend of using bright coloured Moroccan rugs on the tables inspired me to try this at home.

CRATE & BARREL

A fun touch

Don't forget about under your dining table:

- **Fall foliage:** I like to scatter real and coloured paper leaves under the table and chairs.
- **Guests** will love the look of the fall ground cover when they enter the room!



CONTRIBUTED



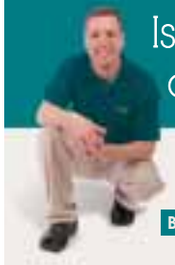
▶ Fine stemless wine glasses add an elegant yet casual feel to the table; $24/set, Riedel.

WEST ELM



▶ Quilts and throws add instant personality to a table when used as coverings. $110, West Elm.

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Distinctly autumn vegetables

These hearty dishes help you embrace the season's bountiful harvest ◗ Stuffed Acorn Squash employs rice and sausage ◗ Sweet Potato and Apple Gratin offers dash of sweetness

Weekly Cookbook

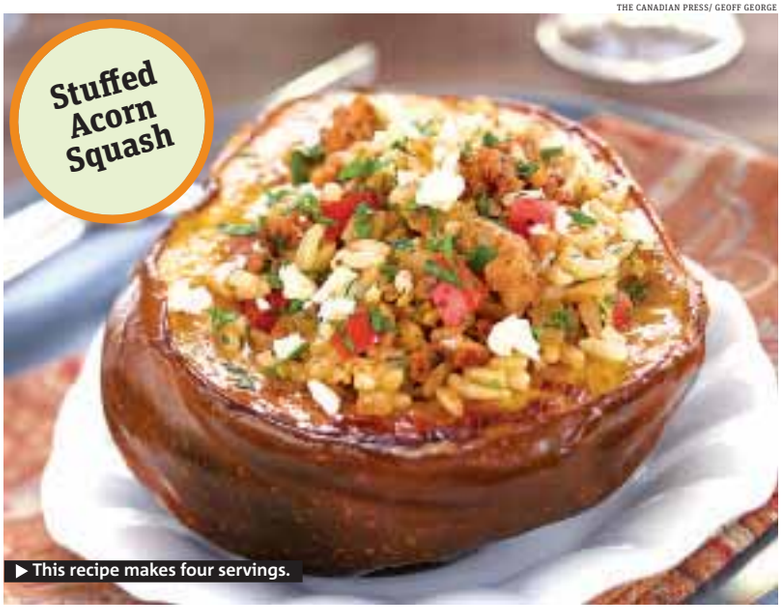


Pat Crocker, home economist, herbalist and award-winning author of eight cookbooks, returns with Preserving: The Canning and Freezing Guide for All Seasons (HarperCollins, 2011).

The cookbook focuses on simple but effective concepts. It follows the seasons, providing easy-to-follow, accurate and thorough information on preserving everything from asparagus to winter squashes. Canning, jamming and freezing techniques are covered, from the most basic hot-packed fruit recipes to gorgeous, internationally flavoured chutneys and relishes.

Extremely versatile and appropriate for fall gatherings, acorn squash stuffed with rice and goat cheese can be served as a mouth-watering rustic main or a beautiful side to complement your holiday spread.

THE CANADIAN PRESS/ GEOFF GEORGE



▶ This recipe makes four servings.

Ingredients:

- 2 acorn squash, halved and seeded
- 15 ml (1 tbsp) olive oil
- 250 g (1/2 lb) turkey sausage, casing removed
- 1 onion, finely chopped
- 1 red pepper, finely chopped
- 250 ml (1 cup) cooked brown rice
- 500 ml (2 cups) chicken broth
- 50 ml (1/4 cup) fresh chopped parsley
- 60 g (2 oz) crumbled goat, crumbled.

Preparation:

1. Heat oven to 200 C (400 F).
2. Rub cut squash all over with oil, including skin, and place cut side down on a parchment-lined rimmed baking sheet. Bake until tender, about 30 minutes. Remove from oven and let cool slightly before turning over.
3. Meanwhile, in a deep skillet, brown sausage meat, breaking meat into small pieces with the back of a wooden spoon. Transfer to a plate.
4. Add onion and red pepper to skillet and cook until onion is tender and browned, about 7 minutes. Stir in rice and cook until rice is coated, about 2 minutes. Stir in broth, scraping any brown bits from the bottom of the pan.
5. Bring to a boil, reduce heat to low, cover and simmer until most of the liquid has been absorbed, about 45 minutes. Stir in sausage, parsley and crumbled goat cheese and divide rice mixture evenly over squash, packing slightly.
6. Return to oven until heated through, about 15 minutes. Serve with a crisp green salad.

THE CANADIAN PRESS/ USA RICE FEDERATION (RICEINFO.COM)

NEWS CANADA



▶ This Gratin serves eight.

Sweet Potato and Ontario Apple Gratin

Ingredients:

- 3 lbs (1.5. kg) sweet potatoes, peeled and sliced in 1/4-inch (5 mm) rounds
- 1 onion, sliced into rings
- 4 Ontario apples (such as Empire, Golden Delicious or Cortland) peeled, cored and sliced in 1/4-inch (5 mm) thick rounds
- 1 cup (250 mL) milk
- 1 tbsp (15 mL) all-purpose flour
- 1/2 tsp (2 mL) dry mustard
- 1/2 tsp (2 mL) each salt and pepper
- 1 cup (250 mL) shredded Gruyère cheese

Preparation:

1. Preheat oven to 400°F (200°C). Arrange half of the sliced sweet potatoes over the bottom of an 8-inch round (2 L) baking dish. Arrange half of the sliced onion rings over the sweet potatoes and half of the sliced apples over the onion. Repeat these layers with remaining ingredients.
2. In medium bowl, whisk together milk, flour, mustard, salt and pepper. Drizzle over apples. Sprinkle with cheese.
3. Cover with foil and bake in preheated oven for 45 minutes. Remove foil and bake until cheese is bubbly and golden and potatoes and apples are tender, 15 minutes. Let stand 10 minutes before serving.

NEWS CANADA



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Jets cleared for takeoff

Team set to open season amid excitement, optimism ◆ Thrashers missed playoffs last season

JOHN WOODS/THE CANADIAN PRESS



▶ The Winnipeg Jets salute the fans after their win against the Carolina Hurricanes in NHL pre-season action in Winnipeg on September 28.

Andrew Ladd was idling in the drive-thru line at Tim Hortons when it was his turn to move up to the window.

As he was passed his coffee, the clerk told Ladd it had been paid for by the person in the vehicle in front of his.

"It was pretty neat," the Winnipeg Jets captain said. "Obviously, for them to recognize me from the car ahead was something that usually doesn't happen."

Such is the fish bowl the Jets will be swimming in since it was announced May 31 that the Atlanta Thrashers had been bought by True North Sports and Entertainment and were moving to NHL-starved Winnipeg.

No ticket is more coveted than one for Sunday's season-opener against the Montreal Canadiens at the 15,004-seat MTS Centre, which is sold out for at least the next three years.

Crowds at the pre-season games were loud and proud, welcoming back their own NHL club for the first time since the old Jets were moved to Phoenix in 1996 and became the Coyotes.

If adoration and applause can translate into wins, the reborn Jets should chalk up a few more victories than its Atlanta predecessor.

The Thrashers finished 12th in the Eastern Conference last season and out of the playoffs with a 34-36-12 record, largely due to a second-half slump that saw them go 14-21-6.

Last season's team leader with 59 points, the 25-year-old Ladd is one of a number of familiar faces on a roster that hasn't seen many changes.

Ladd, Blake Wheeler and Bryan Little form the top line, while Kane, Nik Antropov and Alexander Burmistrov are expected to up their 40-point totals from last season.

New forwards include Eric Fehr, Tanner Glass, Kyle Wellwood and 18-year Mark Scheifele, who signed an entry-level contract on Monday.

Six defencemen have returned from last season's roster, including Dustin Byfuglien, who led all NHL blue-liners last season with 53 points. However, just 13 of those points were notched in the second half.

Byfuglien, 26, is also facing four charges in Minnesota related to impaired boating, and it's yet to be seen whether that off-ice trouble will be a distraction for the six-foot-five Minneapolis native.

Other returnees on the blue line include Zach Bogosian, Tobias Enstrom, Ron Hainsey, Mark Stuart and Johnny Oduya. Enstrom was third in team scoring last season with 51 points in 72 games.

"(The roster) hasn't changed a whole lot, but there's definitely been some changes that have happened and I think they're for the better," said Kane.

New Jets head coach Claude Noel, who guided the AHL Manitoba Moose last season, has praised his players' intelligence.

"I like what we have here," said Noel, who was interim head coach with the Columbus Blue Jackets at the end of the 2009-2010 NHL season.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Mark Scheifele

The team has nine games to decide whether to keep this year's first-round draft pick (seventh overall) or send the Kitchener, Ont., native back for a second year of junior with the OHL's Barrie Colts.

- Fans were chanting Scheifele's name during a pre-season debut that included four goals and four assists in five games.
- That was good for second place in NHL pre-season scoring behind Dallas' Mike Ribeiro, who had two goals and 10 points.

4 sports

Quoted



"It's great for the fans to show such great appreciation for your play on the ice and what you do off the ice. It makes you feel good, gives you an extra boost and it makes you just want to win that much more. That can only help in the wins and loss column."

THIRD-YEAR FORWARD EVANDER KANE SAID OF THE NEW ATMOSPHERE

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Eastern Conference preview



Boston Bruins
There were no significant roster changes to the team that lifted the Stanley Cup in June, but the Bruins face pretty long odds of repeating that feat. The challenge might be toughest for Tim Thomas, who is coming off one of the finest seasons by a goaltender in league history.



Florida Panthers
Needing to spend money to get to the salary floor, general manager Dale Tallon completely overhauled his roster this summer. With as many as 10 new players in the lineup, one of the biggest challenges for new coach Kevin Dineen will be getting his team on the same page.



New York Islanders
Life seems to be looking up a bit on Long Island, where John Tavares heads into his third NHL season poised to take another step ahead. He leads an intriguing group of young forwards that includes Michael Grabner and rookie Nino Niederreiter. Defenceman Mark Streit will also be back.



Philadelphia Flyers
While the expensive acquisition of Ilya Bryzgalov gives Philadelphia the top-flight goaltending it has been missing, the team is going to take a step back offensively without Mike Richards and Jeff Carter — unless Jaromir Jagr can magically turn back the clock.



Toronto Maple Leafs
They should be in the playoff mix if James Reimer plays as well as he did last season, when the unheralded goalie claimed the No. 1 job in the second half. Brian Burke thinks his team will be as good as any defensively, but it's unclear if there's enough talent up front to fill the net.



Buffalo Sabres
After buying the Sabres earlier this year, Terry Pegula just kept on writing cheques. The team was a big spender over the summer, acquiring Ville Leino, Robyn Regehr and Christian Ehrhoff. There are no glaring holes in this Sabres team, especially if Ryan Miller returns to Vezina Trophy form.



Montreal Canadiens
The Habs find themselves on the playoff bubble once again. With Roman Hamrlik departed for Washington and Andrei Markov still fighting injuries, questions remain on the blueline. Fortunately, goaltender Carey Price is coming off his best season and has shown he can shoulder the load.



New York Rangers
Brad Richards is set to take Broadway by storm, giving the Rangers the kind of playmaking centre they've lacked. He's reunited with coach John Tortorella — they won a Stanley Cup together in Tampa — and should have a major impact.



Pittsburgh Penguins
Pittsburgh finished with 106 points despite playing large chunks of last season without Evgeni Malkin and Sidney Crosby and should remain among the NHL's elite, particularly if it has better luck on the health front. This could be a serious Stanley Cup contender.



Washington Capitals
The top team in the conference two years running added to its arsenal in the offseason. Tomas Vokoun's arrival gives the Caps a proven veteran in goal and was accompanied with the additions of veterans Roman Hamrlik, Joel Ward and Troy Brouwer.



Carolina Hurricanes
Expect them to be in the hunt for a playoff spot again. General manager Jim Rutherford — an excellent bargain hunter — bolstered his lineup with veterans Tomas Kaberle, Alexei Ponikarovsky, Anthony Stewart and Brian Boucher over the summer.



New Jersey Devils
The Devils were arguably the NHL's best team in the second half of last year despite falling short of the post-season for the first time since 1996. New Jersey should rebound with a healthy Zach Parise back in the lineup and the addition of impressive rookie defenceman Adam Larsson.



Ottawa Senators
There's bound to be some growing pains with a rebuilding project that started midway through last season. A number of young players are being asked to fill roles under new coach Paul MacLean, complementing the handful of remaining veterans.



Tampa Bay Lightning
Steve Yzerman's team should be more than capable of handling heightened expectations with Steven Stamkos, Marty St. Louis and Vincent Lecavalier flanked by a capable group of defencemen. No. 1 goaltender Dwayne Roloson turns 42, but showed no signs of slowing down in the playoffs.



Winnipeg Jets
For all intents and purpose, this is the same group of players that finished 12th in the Eastern Conference as the Atlanta Thrashers a year ago. It's going to take some time for general manager Kevin Cheveldayoff to turn this into a playoff team.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Antropov glad to be back in Canada

Nik Antropov and his teammates seem to have brought more than just their sticks and skates from Atlanta to Winnipeg.

They've also brought October weather straight out of the Deep South to the Canadian Prairie.

The Winnipeg Jets spent yesterday afternoon on the water instead of the ice, basking in record temperatures of 30.8 degrees Celsius as they took a crash course in rowing on the Red River that head coach Claude Noel termed a "team-building exercise."

Antropov still remembers his first visit to Winnipeg, as a member of the Kazakh team at the 1999 world junior hockey championship, when temperatures at times dipped below -30 C.

"I remember it was cold," said the 31-year-old forward who is entering his 12th NHL season. "That's about all I remember. I'm afraid we're going to pay for this in the winter."

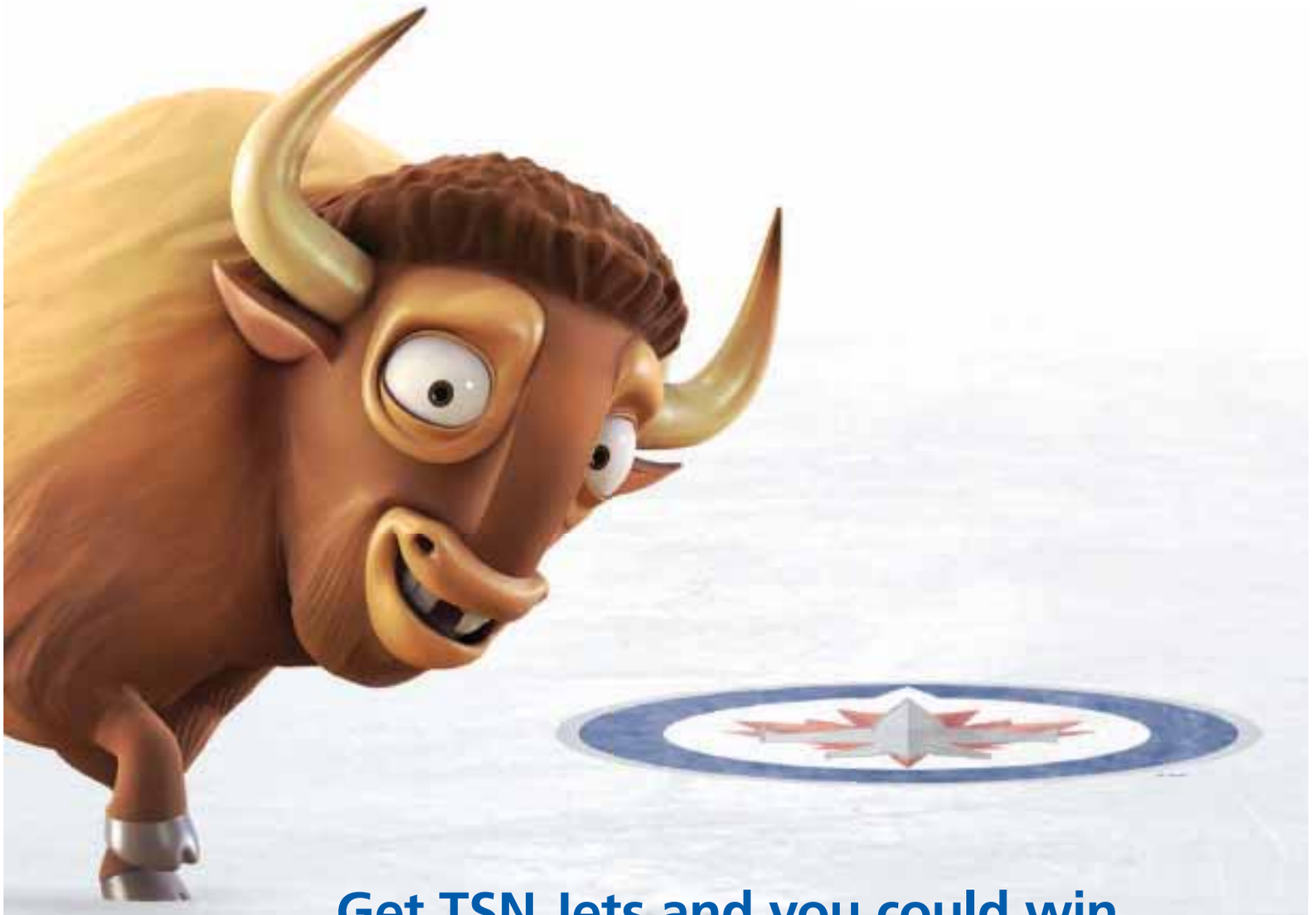
But the longtime Toronto Maple Leaf isn't complaining. He's just happy to be entering a season feeling completely healthy in a market that's obsessed with hockey.

"Hockey-wise, it's on the same level as Toronto for sure," said Antropov, who was traded from the Leafs to the New York Rangers in 2009 before signing a four-year free-agent contract with Atlanta that summer. "The fans are loyal here, and they've been dreaming about hockey here for the last 15 years."

Antropov has experienced life as a professional hockey player in one of the league's most intense media fishbowls and in near anonymity. He says he's learned to handle himself the same way no matter how many people are watching.

"An NHL city is an NHL city," said the Jets' tallest player at six-foot-six. "Whether it's Toronto or New York or Columbus it doesn't matter."

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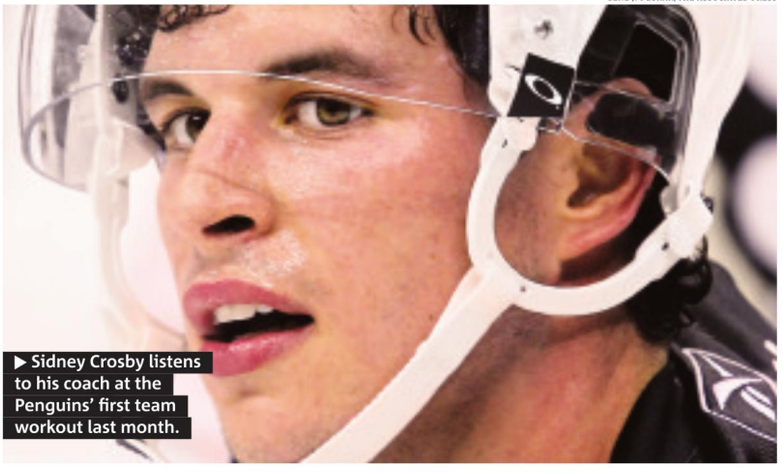
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The summer of Sid

Crosby's slow recovery puts focus on concussions and head shots

GENE J. PUSKAR/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



▶ Sidney Crosby listens to his coach at the Penguins' first team workout last month.

Look at your right hand. Close your eyes. Do you know where it is? Are you certain?

For months, Sidney Crosby was not.

While the rest of his Pittsburgh Penguins teammates spent the summer resting, working on their golf game and trying to get over a seven-game loss to Tampa Bay in the opening round of the playoffs, the game's greatest player spent it searching for a way back to normalcy.

Two head shots within a week of each other last January ended the former MVP's season, put his career in jeopardy and may have started a culture change in a sport where toughness, grit and "playing through it" are among the most prized commodities.

Entering his sixth NHL season, the 24-year-old franchise cornerstone didn't set out to be the most public case study on the mysterious lingering effects of concussions. He simply wanted to feel better and get back to doing what he loved.

The road back has been more arduous than he ever possibly imagined when he was scratched out of the lineup following a game against Tampa Bay on Jan. 5 after experiencing what he's since described as "fogginess."

Months of rest, of tests, of travel, of quietly — and not so quietly — refuting what his camp has deemed as misinformation about his condition, his health, his future have followed.

The organization did its best to give Crosby space. Coach Dan Bylsma and general manager Ray Shero checked in occasionally. Teammates, both old and new, would text or call to talk about anything and everything but the state of Crosby's head.

Penguins forward Jordan Staal says they texted about fishing. The words "vestibular system" — which focuses on a person's ability to balance and work within a given space, the system most affected by Crosby's concussions — never came up.

"I figured he was getting enough of it from everywhere else," Staal said. "All that matters to us really is that he's healthy. All that stuff you thought you heard, I didn't pay any attention to it."

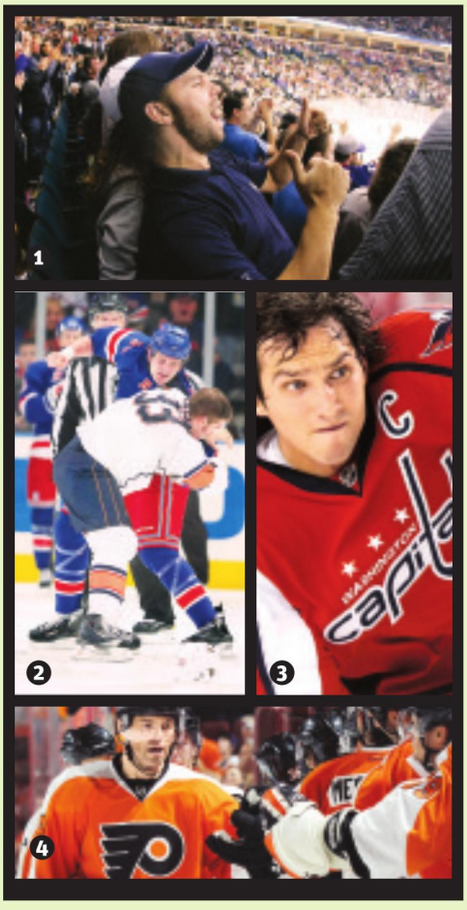
Not one to make declarative statements, Crosby said during his press conference it was "likely" he would play again this season.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS


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NHL storylines to watch

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4. BRUCE BENNETT/GETTY IMAGES



1 The best story over the summer was undoubtedly the league's decision to return a team to Winnipeg after 15 years. The Manitoba capital has been bursting with excitement ever since, making the Jets a sentimental favourite. Can the enthusiasm carry them to the playoffs?

2 The tragic death of three enforcers over the summer prompted some to raise the age-old question about whether fighting still belongs in the sport. While totally banning fighting still seems a long way off, the general managers are bound to dissect the issue again when they sit down together this season.

3 Two teams garnering a lot of pre-season Stanley Cup hype are San Jose and Washington. Sound familiar? Both franchises have been seen as powerhouses in recent years, only to fall short in the playoffs.

4 Teemu Selanne and Jaromir Jagr seem like stars from a bygone era, but both remain active in the NHL. Selanne is coming off an amazing 80-point season with Anaheim while Jagr signed with Philadelphia after three years in the KHL. Can they continue to turn back the clock for one more year? THE CANADIAN PRESS

Spotlight shining brighter than ever

All at key turning points of their careers, here are five NHLers surrounded by intrigue going into 2011-12

No one is pumping Roberto Luongo's tires now.

The Vancouver Canucks goalie was the most talked about — and skewered — player during a Stanley Cup final run that ended in disappointment and riots when he fell flat thru seven games against the Boston Bruins.

Four months later, Luongo finds himself back in the spotlight — will he be the player who earns Vezina Trophy consideration during the regular season or the one who endured some struggles in the playoffs?

With the 2011-12 season set to get underway tonight, Vancouver's most enigmatic athlete tops our list of five players to watch this year:

JAE HONG/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Roberto Luongo
VANCOUVER CANUCKS

Adding intrigue to Luongo's situation is the fact he has arguably the most capable backup in the league. Many believe Cory Schneider is good enough to be a No. 1 man and the Canucks intend to give him more than the 25 appearances he received last year. If Luongo struggles, it could be a lot more.

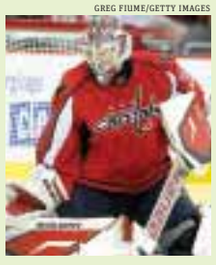
MARK J. TERRILL/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Drew Doughty
LOS ANGELES KINGS

The smooth-skating defenceman finally got a big contract out of the Kings, but now he'll have to earn it. The $56-million US man is the highest-paid member of a team expected to challenge for a championship and will be playing catch up after missing almost two weeks of training camp.

GREG FIUME/GETTY IMAGES



Tomas Vokoun
WASHINGTON CAPITALS

Expectations are even higher than normal in D.C., where the veteran Czech goalie signed a bargain $1.5-million deal for the chance to play for a Stanley Cup. The 35-year-old has consistently been one of the league's better goaltenders but has yet to win a playoff series.

CHRISTIAN PETERSEN/GETTY IMAGES



Jarome Iginla
CALGARY FLAMES

The Flames captain has played all 82 games in five-of-six seasons since the lockout, but was hampered by back spasms during training camp. So far, Iginla hasn't shown many signs of age (he had 43 goals and 86 points last year) — can he fend off Father Time for another season?

BRUCE BENNETT/GETTY IMAGES



Jaromir Jagr
PHILADELPHIA FLYERS

About the only guarantee that can be made about Jagr's return to the NHL is that he'll finally hit the 1,600-point barrier. Jagr needs just one more point to do it. But after three years in Russia, and at age 39, it's anyone's guess what the five-time scoring champion has left.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

It's Game Time!

Here's what hockey-driven-Metropolitans have to say about the upcoming NHL season.

45% of Metropolitans are your red-blooded Canadian hockey fans – 15% of those are the ones you'll see screaming at the TV or at ice-level wearing jerseys and body paint!

87% root for their home team



PRE-GAME RITUALS?
Here's what some of you do before the puck drops:
"Call my dad"
"Kiss my miniature Stanley Cup"
"Wear my team's jersey"
"Pray"
"Grab beer and nachos"
"Study stats"
"Put on my lucky socks"

Which Canadian city should be next in line for a new NHL team?

Quebec City	33%
Hamilton	32%
Toronto	19%
Other	17%

Is fighting an essential part of the NHL?

Yes, it's part of the game	40%
No, we have the UFC for that	60%

Do you think the Canucks will make it back to the Stanley Cup final?

Yes	51%
No	49%

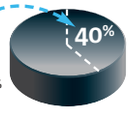
Do you think Sidney Crosby will return to action this season?





Who's going to be the top rookie in 2011?

Ryan Nugent-Hopkins, Edmonton Oilers	40%
Ryan Strome, New York Islanders	24%
Jussi Rynnas, Toronto Maple Leafs	18%
Jonathan Huberdeau, Florida Panthers	17%



Has Gary Bettman been a good ambassador for the NHL?

Yes	18%
Not in Canada	45%
Not Anywhere	37%

Who do you think will win the Stanley Cup?

Vancouver	16%
Toronto	9%
Montreal	8%



think 3 or 4 Canadian teams will make it to the playoffs this season



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Metropolitan Panel

Canucks anxious to start season

A short summer that seemed to last forever is finally over for the Vancouver Canucks.

The Canucks open their NHL season against the Pittsburgh Penguins tonight. It's the first step in what the Canucks hope is another long journey to the Stanley Cup final.

"It feels good," said captain Henrik Sedin. "You can only practice so long."

Goaltender Roberto Luongo said losing last year's final in seven games to the Boston Bruins taught the Canucks some valuable lessons.

"We have gained a lot of experience," said Luongo. "We went through a lot the last season.

"We can use that as far as experience goes to grow as a team and grow individually."

Getting over the frustration and disappointment of losing the Cup hasn't been easy. Sedin said it's a scar that might never totally heal.

"I don't think it's gone but you have to focus on this year," he said. "If it's in the back of your head a little bit, that's a good thing.

"Other than that, you have to move forward."

Vancouver faces a Pittsburgh team that will start the season without former league MVP Sidney Crosby, who hasn't played since Jan. 5 due to concussion problems.

Crosby is travelling with the Penguins and practised with his teammates yesterday. He has not been cleared for contact in practice and doesn't know when he will play again.

"I felt good," he said. "I have been feeling good the last few weeks.

"I am happy with the way things have gone."

The Penguins will still ice a squad that features Evgeni Malkin, Jordan Staal and goaltender Marc-Andre Fluery.

"Nobody underestimates them, even missing Crosby," said Cody Hodgson, who will start the season centring Vancouver's second line.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Western Conference preview



Chicago Blackhawks
Salary cap woes prompted a rebuild after their 2010 cup victory and the Hawks look ready to challenge again. The core of Jonathan Teows, Patrick Kane, Patrick Sharp and Marian Hossa up front remains. Added this summer was tons of toughness in Jamal Mayers, Sean O'Donnell and Dan Carcillo.



Columbus Blue Jackets
The arrival of Jeff Carter from Philadelphia could make a potent top line with Rick Nash, and when new rearguard James Wisniewski finishes serving an eight-game suspension, it could make for a solid power play. Much will depend on unproven secondary scoring.



Detroit Red Wings
Stalwarts Kris Draper, Brian Rafalski and Chris Osgood are gone and Niklas Lidstrom turned 41 in April. But there is a reason they have not missed the playoffs since 1990 — their ability to renew themselves. Pavel Datsyuk and Henrik Zetterberg remain, with a fresh crop of youngsters.



Los Angeles Kings
The signing of star defenceman Drew Doughty to an eight-year contract should send an improving Kings team into the season on a high. The acquisitions of two-way centre Mike Richards and sniper Simon Gagne adds to a potent group including Anze Kopitar, Dustin Brown and Dustin Penner.



Nashville Predators
Goaltender Pekka Rinne and the first-rate defence pair of Shea Weber and Ryan Suter, along with savvy coach Barry Trotz took the Preds to the second round for the first time last spring. They have to try it again with top scorers, Sergei Kostitsyn and Martin Erat, each had only 50 points.



Colorado Avalanche
It's all about youth, starting with centre Matt Duchene who led the team with 67 points. Now top-pick Gabriel Landekog is in the picture. It points to a bright future, especially with Paul Stastny and veteran Milan Hejduk to add offence. Goaltending remains a question mark.



Dallas Stars
Centre Brad Richards is gone and replacing the free agent's 77 points will be a challenge. It makes Mike Ribeiro a first-line centre of for the first time. There's extra support from Loui Eriksson and Brenden Morrow. They'll look for a step forward from 22-goal man Jamie Benn.



Edmonton Oilers
The ever-popular Ryan Smyth is back and his experience should be a boost to all the young talent the Oilers have amassed. No. 1 draft pick Ryan Nugent-Hopkins joins 2010 top pick Taylor Hall, Magnus Paajarvi, Jordan Eberle, Linus Omark and the future looks bright.



Minnesota Wild
Bold moves were made to land Dany Heatley and Devin Setoguchi from San Jose, but it cost Brent Burns and Martin Havlat, the team's co-leader in scoring with 62 points. Rearguard Cam Barker is also gone. The power play could improve with new wingers for star centre Mikko Koivu.



Phoenix Coyotes
Goaltender Ilya Bryzgalov has gone to Philadelphia and it will be Mike Smith in goal. It's not good news for a team whose best goal-scorer was veteran Shane Doan with 20. The good news was that Keith Yandle took another step toward becoming an elite defenceman.



Calgary Flames
Although he had back trouble in camp, captain Jarome Iginla showed last season he is not slowing with age with a 43-goal, 86-point season. He will team again with Alex Tanguay and perhaps prospect Mikael Backlund or veteran Olli Jokinen on a top line.



Anaheim Ducks
Much of the excitement comes from young blue-liners Cam Fowler and Luca Sbisa to go with rearguard Lubomir Visnovsky, who is coming off a 68-point season. Getting goalie Jonas Hiller back should also be a plus. Perhaps the best news was that 41-year-old Teemu Selanne is back.



St. Louis Blues
The Blues will see how much veterans Jason Arnott and Jamie Langenbrunner have left after adding their experience to a young roster. The defence duo of Kevin Shattenkirk and Alex Pietrangelo is a source of optimism, and they know goalie Jaroslav Halak will be great.



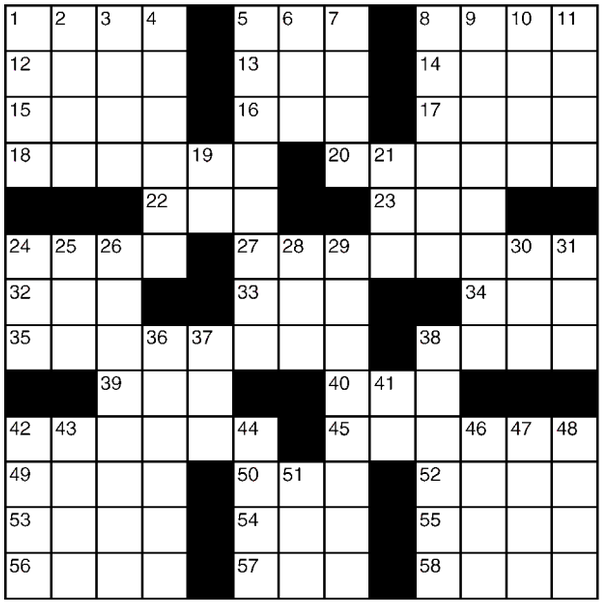
San Jose Sharks
The Sharks have had a maddening run of playoff disappointment, including losses in three conference finals, despite amassing 100 or more points in six of the last seven seasons. Acquiring Brent Burns and playmaker Martin Havlat bolsters their defence without giving up too much on attack.



Vancouver Canucks
The most significant piece gone from last season's first overall team is Christian Ehrhoff, their top scoring defenceman with 50 points. They still have size, skill and depth up front and remain one of the NHL's best — on paper.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Crossword



Across

1 Engrossed
5 Old man
8 Rabbit's tail
12 Wrinkly fruit
13 Japanese sash
14 "My bad"
15 Let fall
16 Joker
17 — -tat-tat
18 Ohio city
20 Tailor, humorously
22 Frequently
23 Speck
24 Freeway access
27 Adverse
32 Hearty brew
33 Author Santha Rama —
34 Sundial numeral
35 Hat seller
38 Automaker Ransom Eli —
39 Pitch
40 Sine qua —
42 It had a big part in the Bible
45 Masticated
49 Famous cookie man
50 Egg-yung link
52 Made on a loom
53 New Zealand symbol
54 Coach Parseghian
55 Mat melody
56 Coastal flyer
57 Deterioration
58 Holler

Down

1 "Our Idiot Brother" star Paul
2 Taj Mahal city
3 Tactic
4 Excellent
5 Business decline
6 Lawyers' org.
7 Uses a shovel
8 "Parting is such sweet —"
9 Man's jacket feature
10 Doing
11 Despot
19 "— Thee I Sing"
21 Fuss
24 Aries
25 Clay, today
26 Loss of self-control
28 Dundee denial
29 Traitor
30 Disencumber
31 Insult (Sl.)
36 Legendary TV pooch
37 Anger
38 Unilateral
41 "I see"
42 Croupier's tool
43 Eastern potentate
44 Somewhere out there
46 Had on
47 Maleficent
48 Transaction
51 Acapulco gold

Yesterday's answer

B	O	N	D		E	G	O		A	V	O	W
O	B	O	E		M	O	O		M	E	N	U
B	I	G	M	O	U	T	H		A	R	C	S
S	T	O	O	D			S	L	I	M	E	S
			T	E	A	S		O	N	O		
W	I	P	E		B	U	R	N		U	S	A
A	L	L		A	L	G	A	E		T	E	D
S	L	Y		C	Y	A	N		C	H	E	Z
		M	U	M		R	I	N	D			
S	O	O	N	E	R			A	R	D	O	R
O	P	U	S		Y	A	R	M	O	U	T	H
F	E	T	A		E	W	E		M	E	T	E
A	C	H	Y		S	E	X		S	T	O	A

Sudoku

		4		3		9	1	
3	9		6				2	
		2			7			
		6		4				
2		8				3		5
				2		1		
			5			8		
	4				9		7	2
	2	7		8		5		

How to play

Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

Yesterday's answer

3	5	2	7	4	8	1	9	6
8	6	4	9	2	1	7	5	3
9	1	7	5	6	3	2	4	8
1	4	9	3	8	7	6	2	5
6	8	5	2	1	4	3	7	9
7	2	3	6	5	9	8	1	4
4	9	8	1	7	6	5	3	2
2	7	6	4	3	5	9	8	1
5	3	1	8	9	2	4	6	7

Send a KISS

You can now post your kiss, and read even more kisses, online at metronews.ca/kiss.

Kattttttlynn,
My BBG !? You are the one who i can trust ! you are the one, who is with me ! Always like a Sister ! You are the PERFECT girl, with YOU Baby Girl ? i can CRY ! I don't want to lose u ! never ever never ! ? I love You Sooo Much ! ? Kocham cie zla Dziwko? <3 I Love YOU SOOO MUCH <3
KAROLINNNAAAA

Jason Stevenson,
I loved the way how u looked at me before .... that day was amazing .... I saw your beautiful eyes... i didn't want anything more!!! I just want you .... I had crush on u .... but after some situation .... i meet the person like a really who you are !!!!! **SOMEONE**

Handsome
Happy Birthday...Baby!!!!
PRINCESS

A look at the weather



Jenna Khan, Weather Specialist

"Weather impacts everything we do. Providing the information you need before you head out that door and take on the day is the best part of my morning." **WEEKDAYS 6AM**

BT BREAKFAST TELEVISION

TODAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Min 16° Max 26°	Min 13° Max 23°	Min 5° Max 16°

For today's crossword answers and for expanded horoscopes, go to metronews.ca

Today's horoscope

♈ Aries March 21-April 20 Mercury close to Saturn in your opposite sign means there's no pleasing those who don't want to be.

♉ Taurus April 21-May 21 Your list of things to do may be longer than your arm but so what? Don't put extra pressure on yourself.

♊ Gemini May 22-June 21 Mercury, your ruler, urges you to be honest about your feelings. Nothing must be hidden.

♋ Cancer June 22-July 22 Certain people may frown at your behaviour today, only because they're jealous of your carefree attitude.

♌ Leo July 23-Aug.23 You may experience a loss of confidence today but it will pass, so there is no need to get yourself worked up about it.

♍ Virgo Aug. 24- Sept. 22 Something to do with money has been causing you a few sleepless nights but there is no reason to worry.

♎ Libra Sept. 23-Oct. 23 You have courage, confidence and bags of energy. So why are you not putting it to better use?

♏ Scorpio Oct. 24-Nov. 22 If someone wants to wallow in self-pity that's fine, but decline in joining the "woe is me" party.

♐ Sagittarius Nov. 23-Dec. 21 Your dreams and wishes can come true, but you've got to believe. You're always a winner in life.

♑ Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 20 Do you bask in success or do you build on it? That's up to you.

♒ Aquarius Jan. 21-Feb. 18 One or two doubts may creep in over the next 24 hours. Ignore them, they're illusions.

♓ Pisces Feb. 19-March 20. Don't overreact to setbacks and don't give up on a creative endeavor because you are not sure of its outcome. **SALLY BROMPTON**

Caption contest

SERGEI GRITS/ THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



JIM BECKEL, THE OKLAHOMAN/AP



WIN!

You write it!

Write a funny caption for the image above and send it to play@metronews.ca — the winning caption will be published in tomorrow's Metro.

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160 SMITH







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- Controlled entry
- Parking available
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